

NATIONAL CONGRESS BULLETIN

MARCH 1946

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MONTHLY MEMO TO LOCAL PRESIDENTS

SOME of the letters coming from local presidents in certain parts of the country tell me that daffodils are blooming, birds are singing, and spring has come. We shall have to wait a little longer for it in some other regions, but we all know it's on its way. And with spring come certain organization duties.

Reports

This is the time for annual reports—our only way of learning what is going on in our vast organization. Will you please make out your reports promptly when requested? It is work, I know, because I have to make them out, too, but how thrilling it is to learn of all the fine and helpful things we have been doing!

P.T.A. Elections

Soon many of you will be having elections in your associations. The leadership of any group is so very important that we hope you will choose your best qualified people. When asking someone to serve don't say, "There isn't much to do, but our bylaws say we must have such-and-such an officer or chairman, so let us use your name." Did you ever approach anyone like that? It really isn't much of a compliment to tell a person he will be just a figurehead and that all we want is the use of a name. Why not offer him instead the real challenge of constructive work for the children, the home, the school, and the community?

Civic Responsibility

Soon also elections to political office will be held in many places, particularly the election of local officials. These people are very important in deciding what sort of schools you will have—whether or not you will have health services, libraries, recreational facilities, and

the many other features of a good education and good environment for your children. Won't you find out their views *before* they are elected? It is much harder to get results after the wrong people have been elected. This does *not* mean that we work *for* Mr. Smith or *against* Mr. Jones. It *does* mean that we will work for people who believe that "a public office is a public trust"—people who have the welfare of the community, and especially its children and youth, at heart. Persons of any and every party, color, creed, or race can be good public servants, and all of us can be good citizens in helping to choose the right sort of public servants.

New Associations. From various states we continue to hear that not only are the established associations gaining in membership but that many new associations are being organized. To all of you who are newly organized Congress units and also to those established associations who have only recently come into membership with the state and National organizations, we say "Welcome!" We're glad you are part of our P.T.A. family. We hope we may help you locally and that you will add your strength to that of many others in the cause of child welfare everywhere.

Conventions. Once again we can plan to hold state conventions, which we have missed so greatly in the past few years. There is a definite inspiration for better work when leaders and members are able to meet together. I hope your local budget allows you to send

several delegates to the state convention. If you are electing a new president this spring and your state is holding a convention soon, be sure that the incoming president attends, for she will receive so much to bring back and put into her work.

The National Convention will be held in Denver on May 20–22 this year, and we hope many of you, especially those who live in the western section of the country, will be able to attend. It will be two or three years before it is held in the West again.

International Affairs

• **Relief needs.** Each day we learn more about the pitiable state of people in places where war has swept across the land. Their needs are truly desperate, so let us help in every way possible. On page 6 you will find a list of agencies through which you may send some aid if you wish to do so. We have ever been a generous country, but never has our generosity seemed so necessary as now. The latest clothing drive is about over, and many useful garments have been donated. I know most of you helped to make the campaign a success, and I can assure you that all you did is appreciated.

• **Russia.** Another thing we can do is to learn about other peoples. The one nation of which most of us are very ignorant—the nation we should know more about—is Russia. Together we are the two strongest nations in the

(Continued on page 2)

NATIONAL OFFICERS NOMINATED

The nominating committee of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers has presented the names of the following nominees for election to National offices in May 1946:

- **President, Mrs. L. W. Hughes, Arlington, Tennessee**
- **First Vice-President, Mrs. John E. Hayes, Twin Falls, Idaho**
- **Secretary, Mrs. Gertrude E. Flyte, Mitchell, South Dakota**

- **Treasurer, G. L. Maxwell, Denver, Colorado**

Each term of office is three years. The election will take place at the 1946 National Convention to be held in Denver, Colorado, on May 20, 21, and 22. The members of the nominating committee are: Mrs. J. S. Stewart, chairman, Washington; Mrs. E. H. Becker, Texas; Mrs. O. C. Ufford, Colorado; Mrs. E. W. Emery, Kansas; and Mrs. Carl R. Brister, New York.

(Continued from page 1)

world, but a peaceful world for your children depends largely on whether or not we can get along together. On this page we are giving you the addresses of several sources of information about Russia. You will be amazed, as I have been, in reading of the size of the country, its educational progress, and the great variety of races which get along together peacefully. Their philosophy is different from ours, and their history, too, is different. We need not try to copy each other unless we wish to, but we should be able to get along together so that both nations may live at peace, develop their resources, and raise the living standards of their people.

National Problems

• **Consumers.** Those of us who are homemakers know the increasing pressure on our budgets. We are supporting anti-inflationary measures until goods are in greater supply and the normal operation of supply and demand will tend to hold down prices. Inflation is one of our greatest national perils at present.

• **Thrift.** Have you forgotten that word? The Treasury Department plans to continue its sale of savings stamps to children so they may learn habits of thrift and profit by training in money management. The National Congress of Parents and Teachers has a representative on the advisory committee for this program.

* * *

There is so much more I'd like to talk about, but lack of space forces me to say good-by until next month.

Minnetta A. Hastings!

President
National Congress of Parents and Teachers

Information About Russia

If you want to learn more about Russia, address your inquiry to one of the following: the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, 114 East 32nd Street, New York 16, New York; American Russian Institute, 101 Post Street, San Francisco 8, California; Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Washington 8, D. C.

Each of these sources distributes a wide variety of information—free material as well as publications for purchase. *The Sixteen Soviet Republics*, an information bulletin issued by the Russian Embassy, gives facts about the geographic features, resources, cities, and people of the U.S.S.R.



NPT Quiz Program

Coming to You over Station HOME

Through the facilities of the National Parent-Teacher

Does your parent education chairman or study group leader know about this feature which appears regularly in *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*? Radio chairmen, too, are finding it invaluable on programs where the interview or round-table type of presentation is used.

Here is a typical NPT Quiz Program question, answered in the March issue by our guest editor, James Lee Ellenwood:

• *My daughter likes to argue all the time. She really is neither lazy nor stubborn, but she disputes almost any point with me and seems reluctant to take my suggestions. How can I handle this problem?*

First of all, let me congratulate you on having such a fine, promising daughter. She

will, unless you head her off, become a creative, useful, and interesting person. Of course, life will tend to flatten her, and there is still danger that she will start doing whatever she is told, that she will too easily give up her own ideas. But if you are willing to put up with minor and inconsequential irritations, if you can do some long-range planning, and if you can forgo that insidious feeling of superiority that comes with being obeyed quickly, you have a swell chance to help build one more intelligent citizen. And this, after all, is the world's greatest need. Please note, however, that I do not suggest complete abnegation on your part. Parents too have the right to argue.

Other regular features include the *President's Message*, *Motion Picture Previews*, *Books in Review*, *What's Happening in Education*, *Looking into Legislation*, *Notes from the Newsfront*, *Poetry Lane*, and *P.T.A. Frontiers*.

APRIL—CANCER CONTROL MONTH

Are you beginning to make plans for the support of Cancer Control next month? By act of Congress and a proclamation by President Truman, the entire month of April will be devoted to emphasizing the control of this terrible malady.

Cancer is mankind's Number One Enemy. It killed 607,000 Americans between Pearl Harbor and V-J Day—more than twice as many Americans as were killed or listed missing in action in World War II. It continues to kill at the rate of 175,000 every year, 478 every day, 20 every hour, 1 every three minutes! And this appalling rate is even now increasing.

Contrary to general belief, cancer strikes at young and old alike. This year nearly 2,000 of our boys and girls under twenty-one years of age will die of cancer.

The American Cancer Society is giving us an opportunity to help fight cancer. Last year the society raised \$4,000,000 to establish a program of cancer control. This year the goal is \$12,000,000, and parent-teacher members will be among the many conscientious citizens who will gladly donate to such a worthy cause.

Of the money collected in each state, 60 per cent will be retained within that

state for preventive education and to assist you in providing for more and better hospital facilities for cancer patients. The national fund will go to provide:

- *A wide, properly coordinated program of research that will lead to more effective treatment and possibly even the elimination of cancer.*
- *Education of the public about the danger signals of cancer and the importance of consulting a doctor for early diagnosis and treatment.*
- *Modern X-ray equipment and more radium.*
- *Visiting nurse service for cancer patients.*

Send your gift to the local committee in your community or send it to the American Cancer Society, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York.

Local President!

Have you filled in and returned to Mrs. Hastings the post card that was enclosed in the letter she sent to you recently. You were to let her know how many men members and how many teachers belong to your P.T.A. If you have forgotten to return the card up to now, will you please mail it the next time you pass a mail box?

Once upon a Time . . .

(Reprinted by popular request)

ONCE upon a time . . . there was a big and busy P.T.A. . . . dear me, what a busy one! Every member worked from morning to night like a bee in a hive . . . you'd never find one of them idle . . . and yet (would you believe it?) that P.T.A. COULDN'T SLEEP AT NIGHT!

Now that was a very strange thing, as you will allow. The P.T.A. thought so, too. "Whatever can be wrong?" it asked. "We work and we work for the children's good, we follow out the program of the National Congress—and then we go to bed and see TWO-HEADED MONSTERS with SCALY TAILS! They GRIN HORRIBLY at us and cry, 'Oh-oh, what we know about you! Oh-oh, what we could tell about you!' . . . Maybe we'd better put on a little more steam in our school lunch program—or something!"

So they speeded up their school lunch program like everything—there wasn't a spare inch of ground that didn't have a victory garden planted on it, and all the members canned food and washed dishes like MAD. But still they couldn't SLEEP. All night long they'd hide under the bedclothes and shiver while the SCALY MONSTERS overhead would flap their feelers and screech, "Oh-oh, what we know about you-hoo! Call yourselves a P.T.A.!"

"Maybe it wasn't the school lunch after all," one member said. "Maybe we ought to do more about juvenile delinquency." So they raised some money and started a recreation center; and they organized the young people into a Teen-Town; and they got every family to have a family council; and they organized study groups to help parents help the young people behave themselves. And pretty soon these wasn't a single delinquent child left. "Aha!" said the P.T.A., yawning. "Now let's get some sleep."

But what do you think? That night the MONSTERS were SCALIER than EVER, and GREEN besides! "Oh-oh! What we could tell about you-hoo!" they mocked.

"Maybe," another member suggested, "maybe there's some child in this community that still needs glasses . . . or hasn't any overshoes . . . or can't get along with other children . . . or something."

The other members agreed that there MIGHT be SOMETHING IN IT. So they made a list of everything and went

to work. And pretty soon they had everything cleaned up to such an extent that—well, you never SAW such a community! People came from MILES AROUND just to look at it, and there was a PIECE about it in ALL the PAPERS. And STILL the P.T.A. couldn't sleep!

Nobody knew WHAT to do. And then, next time they had a meeting, all of a SUDDEN the TREASURER said, "Look here, we haven't decided yet how much of these dues we're going to KEEP BACK this time out of the part we're supposed to send to the STATE AND NATIONAL," and somebody else said, "Well, we could use PLENTY right here in our OWN community, and—" Then suddenly there was a LOUD SCREECHING LAUGH overhead, and the P.T.A. members fell into a DREADFUL SILENCE. At last one of them said in a small, small voice, "Do you suppose—" And another one said in a small, small voice, "After all, it's the National Congress that makes the letters P.T.A. mean what they do," and another one said in a small, small voice, "If we didn't have those National Congress publications—" and then they ALL said, "Let's turn over a NEW LEAF and send the STATE AND NATIONAL part of the dues IN FULL." And then there was a ROAR of RAGE and a loud WHOOSH of wind, and the GREEN SCALY MONSTERS flew away screaming CURSES. And the P.T.A. hurried up and sent in the DUES . . . and that night, when all the members had gone to bed, what do you THINK? There was a strain of SOFT MUSIC . . . and a LOVELY DREAM FAIRY appeared, with a voice as gentle as the music; and she said, "Well done, O faithful P.T.A.! You make my heart rejoice, for it was thus I dreamed of seeing you—one of many thousands of groups doing all the fine things that you have done . . . but REMEMBERING that we must do those things TOGETHER and that the National Congress is THERE TO HELP, NOT HINDER. That's why it needs YOUR LOYALTY AND FAITH. I thank you, and good night."

With these words the Dream Fairy VANISHED, and the P.T.A., remembering just in time that her lovely features and gracious smile were those of its honored Founder, Alice McLellan Birney, closed its eyes and slept both sweetly and peacefully.

P.T.A. ALMANAC FOR MARCH

Within the association:

- Check your accomplishments with the year's goals and objectives.
- Cooperate in the spring activities of the school.
- Make plans for spring conferences and summer recreation projects.
- March 31. Don't forget this deadline for your application for *National Parent-Teacher* magazine certificates and scrolls.

Within the community:

- March 12–18. Girl Scout Anniversary Week. Sponsored by the Girl Scouts, 155 East 44th Street, New York 17, New York, the week's theme is "Active Citizenship Around the World." The annual report of the Girl Scouts, *It's Their World*, and the folder, *Come On In*, are both free upon request. Posters and other materials are also available.
- March 18–23. Hobby Week. Sponsored by the Hobby Guild of America, 34 West 33rd Street, New York, New York. Free posters are available from this address. Interesting hobbies of parents and children should be exhibited along with books that will encourage the development of constructive and enjoyable recreation.
- March 21–April 21. Annual sale of Easter seals for crippled children. Sponsored by the National Society for Crippled Children and its affiliated organizations. Chairmen of committees on the exceptional child will want to provide strong leadership for this campaign, which relates so directly to their particular field of interest.

Citizens' Federal Committee on Education

A Citizens' Federal Committee on Education, recently established, includes persons representing agriculture, business, homemaking, labor, manufacturing, professions, religion, Negro groups, and veterans' groups. The purpose of the committee is to provide a representative group of lay leaders to serve as an advisory group to the U.S. Office of Education and to reflect the thinking of the laymen on educational problems of national significance.

Members from each of the nine groups have been appointed by the various organizations at the invitation of the Federal Security Administrator. One third of the membership on the committee will be appointed each year, and representation within the groups will be rotated among many national organizations. Mrs. William A. Hastings, our National president, will serve as one representative of the homemakers of the nation. Plans are being made for the first meeting of the group in Washington some time this month.

The National treasurer's books close on April 15, 1946. Be sure to send your state and National dues to the *state treasurer* or *state office* in ample time to have them forwarded to the National Office for inclusion in this year's report.



WHAT OUR CONGRESS PARENT-

The Nicolet Elementary P.T.A. of Green Bay, Wisconsin, has 107 subscribers to *National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine*. If your association has more, please notify us so that we can announce your achievement in an early issue of this *Bulletin*.

"Building Together" for Better Character

The theme, "Together We Build," was recently carried out in a very real sense by the students, parents, and teachers of Central School in Greensboro, North Carolina.

A four-day clinic—the outgrowth of much preliminary planning—grew out of a need voiced by pupils themselves. Student leaders in the community had often expressed their desire for some means of directing attention to better character development. Frequently they asked teachers and counselors, "How can we eliminate cheating, lying, and impoliteness? What plan can we launch?" At parent-teacher meetings their parents deplored some of the ways of modern youth and likewise asked, "What can we do to build greater integrity in our young people?"

So together they attacked the problem. And together the adults and youth of Greensboro proved how much can be done when both groups work cooperatively toward a common goal.

Before the opening of school all groups having a special interest in children and young people were asked to list their ideas of what might constitute a total program of character-building. Then when school started, more ideas were contributed by students and faculty. A mimeographed list of home-room suggestions was given to student leaders and teachers. A bibliography of library materials was prepared by the librarian, and book displays and posters were placed in the classrooms. Student council meetings outlined character objectives, and home rooms discussed ways of achieving them. Teachers promoted effectively from the background.

Then the planning committee began the work of selecting speakers and leaders for the four-day meeting. On Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of the conference week a high school assembly featured addresses on character, citizenship, and moral and social fitness. The P.T.A. meeting on Tuesday evening was based on building better homes—together. Each home room had appointed a fact-finding committee to report on decisions made about the attainment of character. Then at the last assembly on Friday a representative of each home room reported on character findings as discussed by each group.

The results of this concentration upon character were most interesting. The conference brought parents and children closer together and led the students to do some effective thinking about themselves as citizens, both today and tomorrow. They accepted this challenge as one that demanded courtesy and a sense of responsibility, and there were many immediate good effects from the conference.

There is no way of estimating fully the far-reaching effects of the character-building conference—of the tiny seeds dropped here or there that may grow into something worth while in the years ahead.

Doctors Find Time To Help the P.T.A.

The Wisconsin Congress is enjoying excellent cooperation with the State Medical Society of Wisconsin. Following a suggestion from the Committee on Health and Public Instruction in the Medical Society, Dr. Francis R. Janney, state chairman of physical hygiene, prepared materials on "Immunization," "The School Hot Lunch Program," and "Tuberculosis and the School Child." This material was then made available to all Wisconsin physicians who were called upon to speak before parent-teacher groups.

Despite their overcrowded schedules, the physicians of the state have cheerfully accepted the responsibility for educating parents about these aspects of children's welfare. Present plans include the preparation of similar materials on topics in other areas of child health.

Doing Something About It

A conference on "Prejudice—A Threat to Our Children" held recently in Chicago was sponsored by the Women's Committee of the Chicago Round Table of Christians and Jews, the Church Federation of Greater Chicago, the Association for Family Living, and the Illinois Congress of Parents and Teachers. Leaders in these four groups shared the honors of presiding, introducing speakers, and leading the discussion groups. Attendance figures showed that 102 organizations sent delegates.

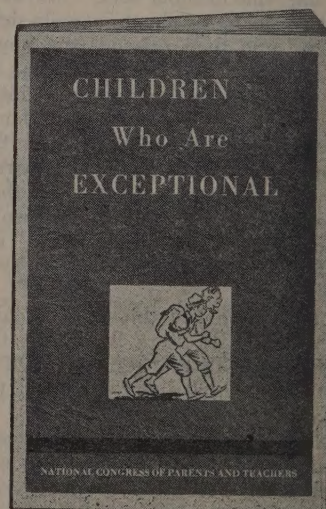
Mrs. Sidonie Matsner Gruenberg, director of the Child Study Association of America, was the featured speaker in the morning session. Following her address the group assembled in four round tables for Preschool, Elementary School, Teen-Age, and Group Leaders. Many concrete suggestions and recommendations for action in combating prejudice came from these group discussions. At the afternoon general session the chairmen who presided in these four groups reported the highlights of each of these round-table discussions.

After the conference the original planning committee and the discussion leaders met to evaluate the meeting.

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Excellent source material for chairmen of exceptional child committees. The price is 50c a copy. Order from your state office or from the National Office.

TEACHER GROUPS *Are Doing*



Bits of News from Here and There

The Dayton and Montgomery County Council in Ohio was honored on Founders Day for the fine work done by its units in civic affairs during the past year, particularly their activities for a \$25,000,000 improvement program for city and county governments and the public school system.

• • •

One of our Birney Memorial post cards was placed in each of the 1,300 unit packets sent out by the Missouri Congress this year.

• • •

The Georgia Congress has published an attractive booklet entitled *Georgia Goes Forward in Education and Health*. It covers new benefits in school legislation, new school laws, activities of the Georgia Education Panel, health activities in the state, and suggestions about what parent-teacher associations can do to alleviate teacher shortages and inadequate building facilities.

• • •

We are pleased to know that the Home and School Associations of Nova Scotia used the radio script from our National Congress 1946 *Founders Day* pamphlet in celebrating their own Founders Day.

P.T.A. Radio Programs Go Over

Radio is being widely used as a means of extending the parent-teacher movement in many states. The committee on parent education in the Oregon state branch is sponsoring a radio study series of especial merit. This is the sixth year that Station KOAC has presented a group of family life programs in cooperation with the Oregon Congress. The 1945-46 series, extending from October through April, is based on the need for understanding—an understanding of ourselves, our husbands or our wives, our children, our returning veterans, our community, our schools, and our neighbors. Each Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. parent-teacher members in Oregon may hear an outstanding authority in the educational field discuss such a topic as "What a Husband Expects of an Understanding Wife" or "If Your Neighbor Is Another Color or Race."

Another interesting radio project is that of the Hartford County Council of

Parent-Teacher Associations in the state of Connecticut. Last spring the council sponsored a thirteen-week program on a Hartford station. All units in the county were asked to take part, and the response was so overwhelming that the program was continued in the fall. The early programs were in the form of panel discussions by the state commissioner of education, the Hartford superintendent of schools, the state president, and the county president. On later programs members of the various local units related the highlights of their year's program of P.T.A. activities. Many valuable ideas were relayed through these broadcasts, and "the P.T.A. on the air" has done much to increase membership in the associations of Hartford County.

Essay Contest on the P.T.A.

The Woodrow Wilson Parent-Teacher Association in San Diego recently sponsored an essay contest among the students on the topic "The Parent-Teacher Association: Its Origin, Growth, and Service to Youth." The contest was suggested by Ruth Schaefer, dean of girls at Woodrow Wilson, who was so impressed by the increase in local membership that she thought students should learn more about our organization, which works constantly for their welfare. Packets of parent-teacher material, including the history of the National Congress, were placed in the school library and in each home room for the use of the contestants. Eighteen awards were presented to winners of first, second, and third place for boys and for girls of each grade. Judges were from the San Diego Council of Parent-Teacher Associations.

Such a contest brings to students a better realization of what their parents and teachers are trying to accomplish. Moreover, it has the added merit of providing these potential P.T.A. members with a good background for active P.T.A. service in the years of their coming adulthood.

THE P.T.A. RADIO PROGRAM IS ON THE AIR EVERY SATURDAY

- Time—1:30 p.m., C.S.T.
- Over—NBC Stations

DON'T FORGET TO LISTEN!

Concerning Children's Radio Programs

The Los Angeles Tenth District of the California Congress recently mailed a most interesting open letter to the radio industry. This letter, sent to radio stations, radio advertising agencies, and program sponsors, was signed by many other organizations also interested in better radio programs for children.

The statement first commended the industry for its many fine broadcasts but made a sincere request for more wholesome entertainment, particularly during the late afternoon and early evening hours when children are most likely to listen.

The appeal deplored the excessive use of horror and crime themes and the lack of constructive patterns of good conduct and honorable citizenship. Bad dreams, irritable dispositions, and neurotic tendencies in children can often be traced to such undesirable radio programs, the letter stated.

The sponsoring organizations expressed confidence that the radio industry could find writers to produce material no less entertaining but much more educational and constructive than at present—material that will . . .

- Help children to understand themselves better.
- Help them learn how to get along with other people more successfully.
- Offer them some pattern of good adult behavior that they can adapt to their own advantage.
- Furnish them with sound ideas of normal boy-girl relationships, happy marriage, and harmonious family life.
- Inspire them with generous and far-sighted ideals and show them ways to realize such aims.

The appeal also stated a great need for better programs in general during the early evening hours—programs the whole family can enjoy together.

The Los Angeles Tenth District also prepares a weekly "P.T.A. Radio Guide" that lists acceptable broadcasts, particularly those suited to children. This radio guide (appearing in a newspaper which reaches every home within seventeen miles of downtown Los Angeles) is of great assistance to parents who wish their children to hear only the best features on the air.

VICTORY CLOTHING PACKAGES

Even though the Victory Clothing Collection is over, we may still want to send packages to the needy in war-ravaged nations. During the interim when no large-scale relief campaign is being conducted, individual packages sent by mail or through regular commercial channels probably offer the most effective means of reaching particular persons whom American citizens wish to aid. A number of American agencies, such as American Relief for France, the Greek War Relief Association, and some of the sectarian relief agencies, have initiated clearing services to provide names of needy children or families to Americans who wish to send some personalized aid but who do not at present know the name or address of such individuals. The American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, 122 East 22nd Street, New York 10, New York, will forward to suitable agencies any inquiries on this subject.

- The Council, headed by Charlotte E. Owen, executive secretary, has in its membership 58 national organizations, all with overseas programs of relief and rehabilitation.

- Church sponsored programs for foreign relief are carried on by the Church Committee on Overseas Relief and Reconstruction, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, New York; the War Relief Services, National Catholic Welfare Conference, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York 1, New York; the American Friends Service Committee, 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; and a number of other church organizations. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc., 270 Madison Avenue, New York 16, New York, also carries on an extensive relief program for children in Europe.

IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION

- Recently a letter from Leiden, Holland, came to the National Office and touched the hearts of all who read it. Its simple, deep sincerity proves how welcome are the garments that we send. We want to share a part of it with you:

"Some weeks ago my wife received from America a bag full of gowns, making a very happy Sunday after five years of total lack of textile and making my wife's wardrobe to such a size as she could have never dreamed of. Textile is awfully scarce here (underwear, night-dresses, and so on) and we cannot tell you how delighted my wife and I am with those dresses. All our love to you."

FIGHT INFLATION! SUPPORT PRICE CONTROL

THE present Price Control Act will expire on June 30 unless we, the people, let Congress know that we want it extended for another year. This act touches each of our personal lives, and if it should be discontinued we shall all feel the disastrous effects of inflation.

Unless these controls are kept in operation, prices will soar, rents will skyrocket, and the value of the dollar will decrease with alarming rapidity. What we can buy for twenty-five cents today may cost fifty cents tomorrow unless we insist upon measures to keep the cost of living at present levels.

Throughout the war years the National Congress gave consistent support to price control, but now we must be even more zealous in our efforts to forestall the threat of inflation. Last month we joined with thirty other civic, educational, religious, labor, and consumer organizations in urging this four-point program:

- Price and rent control for another year.
- Immediate extension of the Price Control Act.
- No weakening amendments to the act.
- Adequate appropriations for the big job of holding the line against inflation.

However, one resolution or call to action is not enough. We must keep working—individually as well as in groups—until we make the people's voice heard on this important issue.

Parent-teacher units can take the initiative in supporting the extension of price control. If no one in your community has taken the first step in this direction, P.T.A. leaders should undertake the responsibility for calling com-

munity leaders together in a mass meeting or conference to explain the dangers of inflation.

Things P.T.A.'s Can Do

Our most effective contribution during the next few months should be to inform the public about the effect of soaring prices upon our whole economic system.

- Ask local newspapers to carry editorials favoring the extension of price control.
- Arrange for local radio broadcasts warning against inflation.
- Request religious leaders to speak on the social consequences of ascending prices.
- If facilities are available, prepare mimeographed material on inflation, or distribute the leaflets issued by your OPA District Office.
- Establish a corps of speakers who will be available for five-minute speeches at all important meetings in the community.
- Organize block captains who will talk to their neighbors about essential price controls.
- Devote part of one or of several P.T.A. meetings to this imminent economic problem; express your stand in the form of resolutions, and send them to the press and to your congressmen.
- As individuals, write to your senators and representatives, and tell them why you and your neighbor need price controls.

Only if we work vigilantly along these lines can we accomplish that which we have pledged—the earnest support of price control, our best safeguard against inflation.

"We thank you very much for this splendid gift! It is a curious fact that a total unknown and far-from-here living friend has done such a good thing to us, after this five horrible years of war. Having the two little daughters of seven and four years old, it was especially the wardrobe of my wife that shrunk to two summer dresses, as she had to cut her frocks into the shape of our girls."

"I hope you will excuse my bad English as I am not regularly corresponding in your language."

- Such are the expressions of gratitude that come back from across the seas to make us know how great a treasure are our outmoded frocks or cast-off shoes. Take another look right now and see what else you have to give!

How many other officers and chairmen see your copy of the *National Congress Bulletin*? Don't pigeonhole it! Pass it along! An informed membership is an effective membership.

COME TO THE 1946 CONVENTION OF THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS!
Denver, Colorado—May 20, 21, 22, 1946

APPLICATION FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

(Please use pencil to fill in)

Miss Mary Morris
 Chairman, Housing Committee
 National Congress of Parents and Teachers
 519 Seventeenth Street
 Denver 2, Colorado

Date _____

PLEASE MAKE HOTEL RESERVATIONS NOTED BELOW:

First choice _____

Second choice _____

Third choice _____

Rooms with bath

Rate you want to pay per person

Room with bath for two persons (twin beds) From \$ _____ to \$ _____

Large room with bath for _____ persons From \$ _____ to \$ _____
 (There are no single rooms available)

Suites

Two-room suite (parlor, one room with twin beds, bath) From \$ _____ to \$ _____

Three-room suite (parlor, two rooms with twin beds, bath) From \$ _____ to \$ _____

Date of arrival _____ hour _____ a.m. _____ p.m.

Date of leaving _____ hour _____ a.m. _____ p.m.

Room Occupants	Home Street Address	City	State

If hotels are unable to accept my reservation, I understand the Housing Committee will make as good a reservation as possible elsewhere.

Name of person making reservations _____

Parent-teacher connection _____

Street and number _____

City, zone, and state _____

DENVER HOTEL RATES for 1946 Convention of National Congress of Parents and Teachers
 (All rooms are with bath unless otherwise noted; all rates are per room, meals not included)

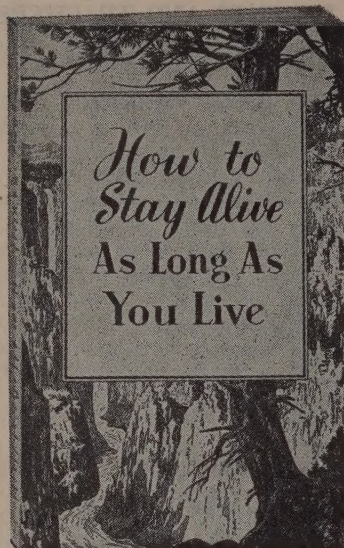
Albany Hotel
 17th and Stout Streets, Zone 2
 Twin beds, \$6 to \$7

Brown Palace Hotel
 17th and Tremont Place, Zone 2
 Twin beds, \$6.60 to \$10
 Suite for 3 persons, \$8.80 to \$17.20

Cosmopolitan Hotel
 East 18th Avenue and Broadway, Zone 2
 Twin beds, \$6.60 to \$7.70
 Suite for 4 persons, \$11 to \$18

Shirley-Savoy Hotel
 East 17th Avenue and Broadway, Zone 2
 Twin beds, \$3.50 to \$4.50
 Suite for 4 persons, \$6 to \$8

IMPORTANT! PLEASE NOTE! The names of all those who will occupy rooms and the dates of arrival and departure *must* be supplied to the hotels before they will accept reservations. There are no single rooms available. If after making your reservation you find you cannot come to Denver, please *be sure* to cancel the reservation.



This new Congress publication, *How To Stay Alive as Long as You Live*, deals with youth—a subject that has intrigued the minds of men for centuries past. As the author herself expresses it, “the search for some secret that will preserve youth is one of the most abiding quests of all mankind.”

This collection of articles by Bonaro W. Overstreet, originally published in the *National Parent-Teacher*, explores the problem of age from the psychological angle. In her sprightly but earnest style, Mrs. Overstreet says:

- You are as young as your sense perceptions. Your senses are your gateway to contact with the world. Have you kept the entrance open and the pathways clear?
- You are young as your words. How old a “you” do they show you to be?
- You are as young as your habits of learning. Are yours the kind that will keep you always youthful?
- You are as young as your generosity.
- You are as young as your courage. Is your courage suited to your stage of life?
- You are as young as your memories. What are your memories doing to you or for you?
- You are as young as your power to feel wonder and surprise.
- You are as young as your service to something greater than yourself. What kind of ideals are animating your daily life?

Copies of this Congress publication are available from the National Congress of Parents and Teachers, 600 S. Michigan Blvd., Chicago 5, Illinois. Price 50c.

LAST CALL FOR CERTIFICATES



- If your association has not as yet earned a magazine certificate, there is still time to get one before the close of the 1945-46 campaign on March 31. Send THREE *National Parent-Teacher* subscriptions between now and March 31 and your association will be entitled to a blue certificate; send TEN and it will be entitled to a gold certificate. Renewals as well as new subscriptions will count toward the certificate. The subscriptions may be sent in bulk to one address or to individual addresses. Be sure that you request your certificate and give the name of your P.T.A. when you send the order. The certificate is definite evidence that you have made a

special and successful effort to advance the welfare of children by promoting the *National Parent-Teacher*. For your convenience, here is a handy blank. Tear it out, fill it in, attach your remittance, and mail before March 31, 1946.

Application for Magazine Certificate

National Parent-Teacher: The P.T.A. Magazine

600 South Michigan Boulevard
Chicago 5, Illinois

I am enclosing ☐ \$3 for 3 subscriptions } to *National Parent-Teacher:*
☐ \$10 for 10 subscriptions }

The P.T.A. Magazine. Send the subscription copies to the following address:

Name _____

Street and Number _____

City, Zone, and State _____

Name of Association _____

(If you want the subscriptions to go to individuals, write their names and addresses on a separate sheet and attach to this form.)

Please send the ☐ Blue Certificate } to me:
☐ Gold Certificate }

My name is _____

Number and Street _____

City, Zone, and State _____

THE National Congress of Parents and Teachers is the *only* organization that gives power, prestige, vitality, and significance to the letters *P.T.A.* Without its organized guidance, its constructive program of work, its supporting national contacts, and its established place in the affairs of the nation, the letters *P.T.A.* would not mean the same to your school or your community.